

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Energy Education Team
Minutes of the Meeting
April 20, 2010

Present: Britton (chair), Williams, Loxsom, Millius, Walton (staff), Hoyle

The meeting began at 7:07 p.m.

The minutes from the March 16, 2010 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Walton reported that at the March 24, 2010 sustainability committee meeting, Fred Baruzzi, Mansfield's Superintendent of Schools, briefed the committee on the school building project. As a result of the briefing, the sustainability committee sent a letter to the Mansfield Board of Education directing them to certain ideas they may not have considered regarding a new school building site and reuse of vacated buildings.

Walton attended a biofuel symposium on April 8, 2010 featuring the grand opening of UConn's biofuel testing lab. UConn professor Richard Parnas has been awarded a grant to expand his lab's small scale biofuel production to a larger operation. The Town is interested in working with Dr. Parnas to develop a collection of used oil from area restaurants and use a portion of the biofuel for municipal heating.

The \$500 Energy Challenge will be drawing to a close at the end of this month. Walton will contact the participants to remind them to send in their May and June 2009 and 2010 electricity bills. A few of the participating households have been taped and aired on cable access television, Channel 14.

Williams offered to report on the highlights of the 20% by 2010 google group e-mails at future meetings. Hoyle asked to be added to this mailing list. Walton will contact Roger Smith.

Loxsom reported that the ECSU Energy Conservation and Solar Energy program was well attended by Mansfield residents. The next presentation on Geothermal Energy for Homeowners is April 21 at 7:00 pm.

The team decided that the overarching goal of the committee is to make Mansfield energy smart. This will be measured by a 30% reduction in current municipal energy consumption, a 30% reduction in current residential energy consumption and an increase in the use of renewable energy by 20%. A variety of ways to measure and achieve these goals were discussed. Members were asked to bring their ideas for reaching these goals.

Walton reported that the Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation is interested in

exploring solar leasing options. Britton stated that funding has run out for any solar installations, including commercial solar leasing, but State Senate Bill 463 is in the energy committee. If this bill is passed, it will stabilize the funds available for renewable energy programs and offer affordable loans for residential clean energy projects. Walton will report back to the Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation.

Walton was approached by the chair of the Woodbridge Energy Task Force about using a marketing strategy that helped Woodbridge significantly increase the number of home energy audits and clean energy sign-ups. The Energy Education Team asked Walton to get the details for the next meeting.

The next meeting is tentatively moved from May 18, 2010 to May 25, 2010. Walton will confirm the new date.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator

Cc: Lon R. Hultgren, Director of Public Works, Members, file, Town Manager, Town Clerk